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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/476,698	01/03/2000	SANDRO H. PINTZ	19223-000700	8171
22434	7590	06/16/2004	EXAMINER	
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS LLP			NGUYEN, HUY THANH	
P.O. BOX 778			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BERKELEY, CA 94704-0778			2615	13
DATE MAILED: 06/16/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/476,698	PINTZ ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	2615
	HUY T NGUYEN		

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 18 May 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.
 Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

a) The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.

b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.

2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:

(a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);

(b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);

(c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or

(d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____.

3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.

4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See attachment.

6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.

7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-30,32 and 33.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.

9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

10. Other: _____.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 18 May 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. In Remarks applicant argues that "In particular, claim 1, requires at least one processing unit for processing software programmed to perform at least some subpicture data stream decoding and subpicture display control command execution; and **a subpicture hardware unit configure to receive said subpicture pixel data stream, subpicture display control information extracted from a subpicture display control command executed by said at least one processing unit, subpicture display control commands not executed by said at least one; processing unit, and execute the subpicture display control commands not executed by said at least one processing unit, and generate subpicture display information for communication to a DVD video display unit..."** Therefore, in contrast to Gadre, the decoding of the subpicture data stream is performed by both the at least one processing unit and the subpicture hardware unit since only "some subpicture data stream decoding" is performed by the at least one processing unit and wherein the subpicture hardware unit is "configured to ...execute the subpicture display control commands not executed by said at least one processing unit". In this way, the at least one processing unit performs only some of the subpicture data stream decoding and some of the subpicture display control command execution since the

subpicture hardware unit executes the subpicture display control commands not executed by the processor."

In response to applicant argument, it is noted that the argument does not reflect the claims. Nowhere in claims do they recite that the subpicture hardware decodes the subpicture data stream. Further it is noted that Gadre, at column 5, lines 10-40 and column 9, lines 15-45, teaches the processing of subpicture data by using programmable instruction and a non programmed hardware and sharing the tasks between a processor and hardware device.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY T NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 305-4775. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on (703) 308-9644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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~~HUY NGUYEN~~
PRIMARY EXAMINER

H.N